

North Carolina Department of Transportation
I-440 Interchange Improvements at Glenwood Avenue Project

Facilitated Listening Session

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Martin Middle School

1701 Ridge Road

Raleigh, NC 27607

Room 2112 Session

Transcription by:
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1 SPEAKER: All right. We're all set.
2 Again, my name is Holly [phonetic]. We have six
3 questions that the design team has asked for input.
4 And -- so we only have about 10 or 12 minutes per
5 question, and I want to save some time at the end.
6 Anything that is not captured by the questions that
7 the design team has come up with, I want to make
8 sure that we leave some time for any of your
9 questions, any of your concerns, any of your
10 suggestions. It could also be about -- suggestions
11 about this process, we definitely want to hear.
12 Very first question, one of the most important
13 questions. We would like to know, with just one
14 word, we want you to describe the most important
15 thing to you, to your family, to your business
16 about this project. With just one word.

17 SPEAKER: Intrusion.

18 SPEAKER: Intrusion.

19 SPEAKER: More about this.

20 SPEAKER: Intrusion? Can you talk a
21 little more about that?

22 SPEAKER: It just --

23 SPEAKER: I know I just asked for one
24 word --

25 SPEAKER: Yeah.

1 SPEAKER: -- but I just want to make sure
2 that we get what that means.

3 SPEAKER: Well, I guess if I was going --
4 if I could have used more words, I would've said
5 quality of the neighborhood.

6 SPEAKER: Okay.

7 SPEAKER: To not take that away, and I
8 see taking that away, because I'm concerned about
9 intrusion.

10 SPEAKER: Okay. So -- all right.

11 SPEAKER: To keep neighborhood quality.

12 SPEAKER: Okay. All right. And I think
13 there's another place that we can also expand on
14 that idea.

15 SPEAKER: Okay. Uh-huh.

16 SPEAKER: I'm just going to have to put a
17 couple more words in here, sorry.

18 SPEAKER: One word's too little.

19 SPEAKER: It is, it is.

20 SPEAKER: But sometimes that'll really
21 make you think about what's really important.

22 SPEAKER: Yeah, yeah.

23 SPEAKER: Think its traffic.

24 SPEAKER: The icebreaker.

25 SPEAKER: Think its traffic.

1 SPEAKER: Traffic.

2 SPEAKER: One word, traffic.

3 [Inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: Destruction.

5 SPEAKER: Destruction.

6 SPEAKER: There you go.

7 SPEAKER: Love our neighborhood, and the

8 whole Ridge Road [inaudible].

9 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

10 SPEAKER: Absolute destruction.

11 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

12 SPEAKER: Well, I think -- I think

13 another word has to be timing. Like why now?

14 SPEAKER: Like, hmm, you only get one

15 word. No, I'm just kidding.

16 SPEAKER: No, no, but I mean, it's --

17 it's times like, why know? I mean, we've got a

18 huge construction project going on out here, that's

19 going to start in the Spring at Wade Avenue and

20 440, you know.

21 SPEAKER: Wade Avenue.

22 SPEAKER: And it's like -- and they're --

23 they're --

24 SPEAKER: There's a meeting they --

25 SPEAKER: They're having a meeting

1 that.

2 SPEAKER: Well, [inaudible] you.

3 [Inaudible] in two words [inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: That's okay.

5 SPEAKER: The neighborhood is first.

6 SPEAKER: Yeah.

7 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

8 SPEAKER: What else? I said one word,
9 just like one theme, it can be you know, we could
10 work with more than one, if I'm I get --

11 SPEAKER: That covers a -- a lot.

12 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

13 SPEAKER: Why?

14 SPEAKER: Yeah, why?

15 SPEAKER: Yeah?

16 SPEAKER: Why?

17 SPEAKER: Yeah, why [inaudible]?

18 SPEAKER: Yeah, why -- I mean why are we
19 doing this, the -- you know, we -- we have -- yeah,
20 why? That's an excellent question?

21 SPEAKER: Why? What's driving it?

22 SPEAKER: Why?

23 SPEAKER: Is this needed?

24 SPEAKER: Why?

25 SPEAKER: Yeah.

1 SPEAKER: I mean, is it needed to
2 included Ridge Road in --

3 SPEAKER: How about leave Ridge Road?

4 SPEAKER: How about -- how about just
5 leave us alone?

6 SPEAKER: Yeah.

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] leave it.

8 SPEAKER: I'm going to tag, this is where
9 -- I'm going to tag this specifically about Ridge
10 Road.

11 SPEAKER: Yeah, thank you.

12 SPEAKER: Yeah, that's fine.

13 SPEAKER: Yeah, I think that's where
14 you're going to hear most of our comments coming
15 from.

16 SPEAKER: And -- and I think part of that
17 is, we don't want to be connected to something
18 else. We connected to enough, what now?

19 SPEAKER: I'd be okay if they just took
20 out the interchange [inaudible].

21 SPEAKER: I know. And people have said
22 that.

23 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

24 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] too.

25 SPEAKER: Yeah, let's just skip on down

1 to 440 [inaudible].

2 SPEAKER: Yeah.

3 SPEAKER: So I want to -- I'm going to --
4 hold that idea, I'm going to circle back to that so
5 I can understand.

6 SPEAKER: Yeah, and if DOT really wants
7 to know how we feel, why don't we do a show of
8 hands of everybody in the room that is for this
9 project and then a show of hands of those who are
10 against it.

11 SPEAKER: You know, I think -- but I
12 think it's how it affects us. I can't say whether
13 I'm for it or against it [inaudible] --

14 SPEAKER: 'Cause I'm ending up with --
15 yeah.

16 SPEAKER: I don't know what the end
17 result is.

18 SPEAKER: Yes.

19 SPEAKER: Yeah.

20 SPEAKER: So if it leaves our
21 neighborhood alone, but it helps the intersection,
22 how it -- I don't know what that means. But if it
23 left our neighborhood from getting more traffic --

24 SPEAKER: Right.

25 SPEAKER: -- and made it as desirable --

1 it still has more traffic than it needs to right
2 now, I would be fine with it. So I -- I don't know
3 if I can vote that unless I knew it wasn't
4 affecting us. 'Cause the real project that we're
5 talking about isn't supposed to --

6 SPEAKER: I think it will affect us.

7 SPEAKER: Well, I -- I know, but that's
8 where I can't -- I don't -- you know, until we see.

9 SPEAKER: Right. Right.

10 SPEAKER: Well, I mean, not that -- I
11 think that's the perfect problem and -- and perfect
12 challenge here is the -- is -- is the DOT, has been
13 all over the board on this thing. They're saying
14 we've not made any decisions, okay?

15 SPEAKER: Yeah. Right.

16 SPEAKER: Then they come in and they say
17 we've got this money allocated. All right? We got
18 to spend it. Like, why do you have to spend it
19 now? It's not really allocated, it was on the
20 budget for 2022 or '23.

21 SPEAKER: Right. Yeah.

22 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

23 SPEAKER: Right. You know, I mean, DOT
24 and the city of Raleigh, I would put them in that
25 group too, have been less than candid.

1 SPEAKER: I agree.

2 SPEAKER: All right? I think they've got
3 their mind made up.

4 SPEAKER: Goes to transparency.

5 SPEAKER: And I think this is a bunch of
6 --

7 SPEAKER: Yeah, the transparency.

8 SPEAKER: I think this is a bunch of BS,
9 myself, but --

10 SPEAKER: You -- you were, you were
11 asking -- you were asking about a show of hands,
12 I'd like a show of hands, I know we're hijacking
13 your [inaudible] --

14 SPEAKER: Well, before we get to that,
15 I'm not --

16 SPEAKER: She's charged with keeping us
17 on task.

18 SPEAKER: Before we get to that -- no,
19 no, no.

20 SPEAKER: No, I know. No.

21 SPEAKER: I just want to -- have -- ask
22 one question.

23 SPEAKER: So how -- how many of you have
24 gone to the website? I looked at the website, now
25 I live in Chapel Hill. So I looked at the website

1 to try understand exactly what was happening with
2 this project, and I know very little. Except how
3 many --

4 SPEAKER: Exactly. Exactly. And I mean
5 that's exactly the point.

6 SPEAKER: Right.

7 SPEAKER: So that -- yeah.

8 SPEAKER: Let me -- let me share with you
9 what I have learned just being --

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: -- very loosely -- very loosely
12 involved in this.

13 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

14 SPEAKER: My understanding -- which is
15 sort of consistent with what you said -- is that,
16 what I understand from the articles that are on the
17 -- on the website, and what's been shared with me
18 by the organization that's organizing this. Is
19 that there have been significant -- a significant
20 number of accidents, that there are huge safety
21 concerns around that interchange.

22 SPEAKER: Correct.

23 SPEAKER: And I don't know how it
24 compares to other parts of the city, but something
25 has to be done. What they have not determined is

1 what that something is --

2 SPEAKER: Is.

3 SPEAKER: -- and what it is going to look
4 like. That's why this process was created. My
5 understanding is they understand that people have
6 grave concerns, that people don't think that
7 they've been transparent that they haven't been
8 forthcoming with information. What I understand is
9 that they are still information gathering, and so
10 everything that we're talking about here tonight,
11 is -- they're -- they are looking for your help in
12 designing what the solution actually is.

13 So that is what I've been told. And they
14 know and understand that, that there is a lack of
15 trust in the community, and I think that's been
16 driven -- I mean there are tremendous pressures
17 that happen in a city that is done as much growth
18 as Raleigh has. And so I think their -- DOT's
19 thinking is, we got to do something different,
20 because people don't -- you know, there is too much
21 going on and people don't trust us. We have to do
22 something different. That's why these listening
23 sessions have been created.

24 SPEAKER: And then when you say
25 developers at earlier meetings that don't live --

1 SPEAKER: In those neighborhoods.

2 SPEAKER: Uh-huh, uh-huh. Uh-huh.

3 SPEAKER: You know. It doesn't take a
4 rocket scientist to put that one together.

5 SPEAKER: Right. Right. Right. Right.

6 SPEAKER: Okay. You talked about trying
7 to get on the DOT website to try to figure out
8 what's going on. We've been attending meetings
9 about this since last spring. So we've seen their
10 maps of the way that this is going to look at the
11 end of Ridge Road and how the road is going to --
12 the new road is going to connect to Glenwood, and
13 how it's going to -- and how the exits off of --

14 SPEAKER: Uh-huh. Glen --

15 SPEAKER: Off of the Beltline onto --
16 anyway, we've seen the maps that they have already
17 created to show, we thought their plan -- so now,
18 you say no, that's -- there's not a plan, there are
19 no maps, that now it appears that they have gone
20 back to the drawing board to try to reframe how
21 this is connecting. My question, and what I would
22 like everybody -- would like a show of hands on, is
23 were we --

24 SPEAKER: We're not going to do that yet.
25 We're going to --

1 SPEAKER: I'm sorry.

2 SPEAKER: You can be mad at me.

3 SPEAKER: Okay.

4 SPEAKER: We're going to do that, at the
5 end. Okay? We're going to do that at the end.

6 SPEAKER: No, it would only take a
7 second.

8 SPEAKER: Exactly.

9 SPEAKER: I know.

10 SPEAKER: We're -- we're still going to
11 do it at the end.

12 SPEAKER: Okay.

13 SPEAKER: It's not because it isn't a
14 valuable thing for you all to do, work that
15 information. But I don't want it to interfere. I
16 want to get this [inaudible].

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: Let's do this -- let's
19 continue, put --

20 SPEAKER: It'll put it --

21 SPEAKER: It's -- it's --

22 SPEAKER: Clear.

23 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] finish this, then
24 we can go [inaudible] -- all right.

25 SPEAKER: Yeah. Yeah.

1 SPEAKER: All right.

2 SPEAKER: Yeah. Okay.

3 SPEAKER: Let's get through this.

4 SPEAKER: Because time is moving.

5 SPEAKER: Time is moving and I don't want
6 to get to the end and your input not reflected.
7 There is going to be something though.

8 SPEAKER: Okay.

9 SPEAKER: And I want to make sure it
10 captures everything that is important to you, in
11 this room.

12 SPEAKER: Okay.

13 SPEAKER: Okay? Any other words? I'm
14 going to -- I'm going to read this question again,
15 just make sure -- okay. With one word describe
16 what is the most important thing to you or your
17 household business that must be considered as this
18 project moves forward?

19 SPEAKER: Can I give one more?

20 SPEAKER: Yeah.

21 SPEAKER: Neighborhood character.

22 SPEAKER: Character, yes.

23 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] to me, the quality.

24 SPEAKER: It is like the quality.

25 SPEAKER: Yeah, I mean, to me it is.

1 SPEAKER: That's okay.

2 SPEAKER: Yeah.

3 SPEAKER: You can keep saying it in lots
4 of different ways. People get it in their brains
5 differently. Neighborhood character. Values.

6 SPEAKER: Uh-huh. Yes, we got --

7 SPEAKER: Let's just -- let's just put it
8 in there.

9 SPEAKER: We -- we did. We have values.

10 SPEAKER: Yeah.

11 SPEAKER: We have property values, but --

12 SPEAKER: Right.

13 SPEAKER: Property values.

14 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] that's a little bit
15 different.

16 SPEAKER: Neighborhood values.

17 SPEAKER: Let's see, you don't have
18 safety up there. There are numerous schools and
19 churches on Ridge Road.

20 SPEAKER: Safety.

21 SPEAKER: Elementary school, this middle
22 school. So safety. And that -- it's -- it'll --
23 but it's important.

24 SPEAKER: You can write there's almost
25 2,000 kids between all the schools on Ridge Road.

1 SPEAKER: Well, that morphs us into
2 question Number 2, and I think --

3 SPEAKER: Right. The same --

4 SPEAKER: That's okay.

5 SPEAKER: And a former facilitator, we
6 have long since exhausted 12 minutes on it. With
7 Chart Number 1.

8 SPEAKER: Okay.

9 SPEAKER: Okay. [Inaudible].

10 SPEAKER: I just want to make sure,
11 that's okay.

12 SPEAKER: Yeah, I got it.

13 SPEAKER: And it's okay if these things
14 get repeated, because then people will start to --
15 you'll start to see what keeps coming up is also an
16 indicator on what's important.

17 SPEAKER: Done.

18 SPEAKER: One word, you feel good that
19 we've gotten?

20 SPEAKER: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

21 SPEAKER: Okay. Good. All right. Let's
22 talk about safety. What do you believe is needed
23 to insure the safety of your family, the people who
24 live in the area and the people that travel through
25 the area?

1 SPEAKER: Cancellation of this project.

2 SPEAKER: I'm with you.

3 SPEAKER: Speed bumps.

4 SPEAKER: All right.

5 SPEAKER: No. Whoa, no don't say that.

6 SPEAKER: Put them in. Yeah, put them
7 in, I'm okay with that. Keep them -- them below 35
8 miles an hour on Ridge Road.

9 SPEAKER: I don't like it. That'll keep
10 them away.

11 SPEAKER: Yeah.

12 SPEAKER: 35 miles per hour?

13 SPEAKER: Speed limit's 35 on Ridge Road.

14 SPEAKER: Okay.

15 SPEAKER: But most people go faster.

16 SPEAKER: Exactly.

17 SPEAKER: So -- Okay.

18 SPEAKER: Enforce.

19 SPEAKER: All right. What else?

20 SPEAKER: Have Ridge Road not connect
21 with the Beltline.

22 SPEAKER: Agreed.

23 SPEAKER: Agreed. It's crazy out there.

24 SPEAKER: Put stars next to that.

25 SPEAKER: All right.

1 SPEAKER: No entrances or exits, not
2 connect at all.

3 SPEAKER: Okay.

4 SPEAKER: And then this project can go on
5 and they can do whatever they want to Glenwood
6 Avenue. [Inaudible] --

7 SPEAKER: And the mall.

8 SPEAKER: And --

9 SPEAKER: And Crabtree Valley Mall.

10 SPEAKER: Uh-huh. And they can't, but
11 [inaudible] --

12 SPEAKER: I would say [inaudible].

13 SPEAKER: Take Ridge Road --

14 SPEAKER: -- stop.

15 SPEAKER: Right.

16 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

17 SPEAKER: Especially during construction.

18 SPEAKER: Whenever and --

19 SPEAKER: All right. So especially
20 during construction.

21 SPEAKER: Up 440 [inaudible] -- minimum.

22 SPEAKER: No. None, is not -- not during
23 construction, just, like make a plan so that Ridge
24 Road does not connect with the Beltline.

25 SPEAKER: Right.

1 SPEAKER: Directly with the Beltline.

2 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

3 SPEAKER: It would be okay if they closed
4 off -- it'd be okay if they closed it off at least
5 temporarily.

6 SPEAKER: And while you're there, just --
7 it only does that in one place.

8 SPEAKER: No, there're two exits
9 [inaudible].

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: Well, there's one exit -- they
12 -- one exit under the Beltline. I mean exits
13 coming off, also.

14 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

15 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: I mean no access to the
17 Beltline.

18 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: To or from. So it's not backed
20 up. Add to or from.

21 SPEAKER: I got it. All right. What
22 else?

23 SPEAKER: The residents of Ridge Road
24 will deal with it.

25 SPEAKER: Yeah, that [inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: And the people who are passing
2 through have no reason to drive on Ridge Road.

3 SPEAKER: Right.

4 SPEAKER: So pass through. That's a big
5 part of your concern that you all have?

6 SPEAKER: Yeah. Yeah. Uh-huh.

7 SPEAKER: Okay.

8 SPEAKER: One more on safety.

9 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

10 SPEAKER: Less traffic. Less cars.

11 SPEAKER: Okay.

12 SPEAKER: No turn signal on Glenwood and
13 Ridge Road or Glen Eden to Ridge Road.

14 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

15 SPEAKER: They almost got whacked there
16 today.

17 SPEAKER: All right. Tell me that again.

18 SPEAKER: Less traffic.

19 SPEAKER: Less traffic.

20 SPEAKER: Now, we had --

21 SPEAKER: Can I --

22 SPEAKER: I think -- I think the point
23 here is -- is that the concern is that the proposal
24 as we know it, all right, is going to increase the
25 traffic flow on Ridge Road.

1 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

2 SPEAKER: Ultimately result in a widening
3 of Ridge Road, which none of us want.

4 SPEAKER: Right.

5 SPEAKER: Okay.

6 SPEAKER: They're saying no.

7 SPEAKER: When we've got two schools and
8 -- we got three churches and two schools and all
9 these kids.

10 SPEAKER: Two thousand kids.

11 SPEAKER: Yep.

12 SPEAKER: And that's not what we want for
13 -- for the kids or for our neighborhood.

14 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

15 SPEAKER: And the answers to the
16 questions about widening Ridge Road are always
17 qualified not at this time.

18 SPEAKER: Exactly. That's exactly right.
19 You know, I mean -- and -- and that means, okay,
20 ten years from now what you going to do?

21 SPEAKER: That's right.

22 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] neighborhood and
23 character [inaudible] --

24 SPEAKER: Exactly.

25 SPEAKER: -- and safety.

1 -- the Waze.

2 SPEAKER: Waze. Uh-huh.

3 SPEAKER: Waze? Can -- can it not -- is
4 there any way -- and I don't know if anybody knows
5 this in the room. But can they eliminate Ridge as
6 a --

7 SPEAKER: As a pass through?

8 SPEAKER: You have to go to Waze to do
9 that. I read about that being done in Atlanta.

10 SPEAKER: Don't know. Don't know.

11 SPEAKER: Where they -- where the City of
12 Atlanta went to Waze and asked them [inaudible].

13 SPEAKER: Remind me of your name.

14 SPEAKER: I'm Conshna [phonetic].

15 SPEAKER: Unconshna [phonetic].

16 SPEAKER: Conshna.

17 SPEAKER: Conshna. So Conshna, I'm
18 interested in your perspective since you don't --

19 SPEAKER: Oh, I'm here just to listen and
20 learn.

21 SPEAKER: Oh, okay. Okay.

22 SPEAKER: And learn. We're observers.

23 SPEAKER: All right. Okay. All right.

24 Very good. All right. Safety. What is needed to
25 preserve the safety?

1 SPEAKER: I think you got it all.

2 SPEAKER: I know. I think you got it.

3 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: All right. Very good. All
5 right. Actually, I do want to -- I do want to --
6 you all expressed concerns about there is already
7 enough -- we're growing -- traffic or there's --

8 SPEAKER: There's too much now because
9 people are --

10 SPEAKER: You should see --

11 SPEAKER: Already too much.

12 SPEAKER: My trying to get out of my
13 driveway.

14 SPEAKER: And leaving 440 and trying to
15 slip through the neighborhood.

16 SPEAKER: Well, you got the office park
17 right over there on the other side of 440. And
18 people are coming off of the Beltway -- or the
19 Beltline [inaudible] and they're --

20 SPEAKER: And they're building -- they're
21 -- and the roads are already getting [inaudible].

22 SPEAKER: Glen Eden, I mean, my office
23 was over there temporarily and if I left at 5
24 o'clock it would take me 15 minutes to get home.
25 If I left any other time, it's like three minutes.

1 SPEAKER: 440, yeah.

2 SPEAKER: And -- and Ridge -- Ridge Road
3 right now is the de facto detour around the
4 Beltline traffic.

5 SPEAKER: Around -- yeah, exactly.

6 SPEAKER: Okay. It's already getting
7 [inaudible].

8 SPEAKER: 'Cause it's -- it's -- that's
9 exactly right. People get off and go into town or
10 go to Wade Avenue and that kind of stuff because of
11 the bottle-neck that happens and [inaudible] to
12 Wade Avenue.

13 SPEAKER: Or they just get off Ridge
14 Road.

15 SPEAKER: Yeah.

16 SPEAKER: They get off on Ridge Road, go
17 all the way down the road to Wade Avenue and then
18 get back on the Beltline.

19 SPEAKER: Yeah.

20 SPEAKER: Or they can keep going down
21 Corbin.

22 SPEAKER: Let -- let me just say, if --
23 when we get through this, if there's anything else
24 that you think of -- I'm an iterative thinker --
25 might hear something that reminds you? Just let me

1 know. We're going to move on to Question 3 and I
2 think this is a really, really critical one to talk
3 about.

4 The specific valuable community assets;
5 things that are important to the neighborhood, to
6 its character. We talked about the character.
7 Values, how it feels, all of that -- that your
8 concern is going to be protected, impacted and how
9 to protect it.

10 SPEAKER: I don't know. Kind of -- I'm
11 going to make this more than it probably needs to,
12 but we value -- or I value that people ride their
13 bikes.

14 SPEAKER: Yeah.

15 SPEAKER: Thank you.

16 SPEAKER: And I like for them to be able
17 to do that.

18 SPEAKER: Or walk their dogs.

19 SPEAKER: Yes. And some people drive
20 here to walk on Ridge Road.

21 SPEAKER: We have a running group.

22 SPEAKER: Yes. We -- yes. Many running
23 --

24 SPEAKER: Running groups?

25 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

1 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

2 SPEAKER: Kids are [inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: So it's a -- I mean it's an
4 active, out-living-in-the-community kind of
5 neighborhood.

6 SPEAKER: We literally, at Whole Foods,
7 say please do not park your car here and -- because
8 we -- we have so many people in this community.
9 Sorry, I'm --

10 SPEAKER: No.

11 SPEAKER: Children walk to school.

12 SPEAKER: I think other thing in
13 conjunction with that is you've got, you know,
14 morning and afternoon, kids walking and riding
15 bikes to school.

16 SPEAKER: Oh, yeah. Uh-huh.

17 SPEAKER: To school.

18 SPEAKER: Absolutely.

19 SPEAKER: It's a neighborhood.

20 SPEAKER: Right. It is a neighborhood.

21 SPEAKER: It's a -- it's a traditional
22 neighborhood. And if you have the road --

23 SPEAKER: I think that's -- that gets
24 back to the first one.

25 SPEAKER: Yes.

1 SPEAKER: Maintaining the character of
2 the neighborhood. Increase the traffic. You do
3 any of those kinds of things the character of the
4 neighborhood is going to decline. And is -- is
5 there -- I mean, the question is something
6 important to the community and/or neighborhood
7 located within this project zone. Okay? So let's
8 focus on a project zone. What's in the middle of
9 the project zone? Crabtree Hall [sic].

10 SPEAKER: No, no, no, no. Crabtree Mall.

11 SPEAKER: Okay.

12 SPEAKER: That is not important to the
13 neighborhood.

14 SPEAKER: Right.

15 SPEAKER: Okay. So we're not talking
16 just about the project zone.

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] attached to it.

18 SPEAKER: Right?

19 SPEAKER: No, I don't either.

20 SPEAKER: No.

21 SPEAKER: I go there maybe twice a year.

22 SPEAKER: No, no, no, no. So I know
23 that's just what it says here, but we're not just
24 talking about the project zone. So at -- during
25 the introduction, Beth [phonetic] clarified that,

1 because she said that there has been confusion. We
2 talked about the project zone, but then we're also
3 talking about the community impact zone. I want to
4 hear from you all how whether the construction is
5 happening at Crabtree Valley Mall, is it still
6 having an impact? You are in the impact zone. So
7 I know that it says project zone here, but -- but
8 -- we're -- we're talking about the fuller impact
9 zone.

10 SPEAKER: On one of -- one of the things
11 that we have been told consistently is that the
12 need for this project is to alleviate the traffic
13 around Crabtree Mall.

14 SPEAKER: Right.

15 SPEAKER: Okay?

16 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

17 SPEAKER: That does not mean that we want
18 it to be dumped onto Ridge Road.

19 SPEAKER: That's all we [inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: Right. Exactly.

21 SPEAKER: That -- that -- that is -- that
22 is absolutely what we have heard.

23 SPEAKER: Right. Right.

24 SPEAKER: And we -- and we could care
25 less about -- I'll -- I'll be okay if they imploded

1 the damn thing.

2 SPEAKER: Yeah.

3 SPEAKER: Right.

4 SPEAKER: Okay? Now, I'm sure the people
5 that own Crabtree wouldn't be happy with that.

6 SPEAKER: Right.

7 SPEAKER: But, you know -- I mean,
8 Crabtree's traffic problem -- traffic problem is
9 not my traffic problem.

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: Okay. I guess on all of the
12 things you should --

13 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

14 SPEAKER: All right. So I want to put
15 that here because it -- what we're talking about
16 [inaudible] of assets. I think -- I want to
17 capture this idea that --

18 SPEAKER: I don't consider Crabtree an
19 asset; I consider it a liability.

20 SPEAKER: Right. So I want to -- I want
21 to put that concern here as a standalone.

22 SPEAKER: Okay.

23 SPEAKER: That -- what -- what the goal
24 of the -- if you believe that the goal of this
25 project is around Crabtree, that [inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: That's what the DOT just said
2 [inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: We don't care [inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

5 SPEAKER: You wrote around Ridge Road
6 above every one of these titles. That's what we're
7 all talking about.

8 SPEAKER: Right.

9 SPEAKER: So --

10 SPEAKER: How did we all end up in the
11 same place? [Inaudible].

12 SPEAKER: They're not doing this for --

13 SPEAKER: Yeah, I know.

14 SPEAKER: They're not doing this for the
15 neighborhood off Lead Mine Road or off -- off of
16 Creedmoor Road.

17 SPEAKER: No. Why are they complaining?

18 SPEAKER: They're doing this because we
19 --

20 SPEAKER: Because we've been loud.

21 SPEAKER: Yes.

22 SPEAKER: For sure.

23 SPEAKER: And -- and the bottom line is
24 --

25 SPEAKER: I almost feel like I'm being

1 managed.

2 SPEAKER: If -- if you take out the
3 access to Ridge Road, then in -- in my theory that
4 solves the problem.

5 SPEAKER: I know.

6 SPEAKER: Yeah.

7 SPEAKER: They can do whatever they want
8 if they just leave us all --

9 SPEAKER: Yeah. Leave Ridge Road alone.

10 SPEAKER: Well, I think I -- I -- but I
11 do think -- I do think they need to consider -- I
12 mean the interchange could solve part of it.
13 Deleting the interchange could solve part of the
14 problem, but it's not going to solve all the
15 problem because how do I go to Crabtree?

16 SPEAKER: Down Ridge Road?

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: Glen Eden to Blue Ridge.

19 SPEAKER: Yeah.

20 SPEAKER: That's how I go to Crabtree so

21 --

22 SPEAKER: How do you go?

23 SPEAKER: Blue Ridge. I -- Glen Eden to
24 Blue Ridge.

25 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: Blue Ridge. Right. We don't
2 -- none of us -- none of us use the exit.

3 SPEAKER: I try not to.

4 SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. I don't. But the
5 exit from Ridge Road onto the Beltline is so
6 dangerous that I don't think anybody that actually
7 lives in this neighborhood uses the [inaudible].

8 SPEAKER: I do, but it scares me and --
9 and there have been times where I couldn't even get
10 on it. Had to go --

11 SPEAKER: Oh, I know. I don't go that
12 way.

13 SPEAKER: That -- that's the -- I mean,
14 you know, [inaudible].

15 SPEAKER: I know, but I think the
16 [inaudible].

17 SPEAKER: We're talking about the next
18 one.

19 SPEAKER: We -- we talk [inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: We're talking [inaudible].
21 Uh-huh.

22 SPEAKER: We take Ridge Road out of the
23 -- the whole gamut.

24 SPEAKER: Well, I've got that captured,
25 but that is actually a solution.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah.

2 SPEAKER: And I want the design team to
3 understand all of the concerns and everything that
4 get you all to that conclusion. Because otherwise,
5 if you just put down a conclusion, it's too easy
6 for them to say ah, well, that's not going to
7 happen. But let's get -- and I love the specifics
8 that I'm hearing here.

9 SPEAKER: Okay.

10 SPEAKER: And I think that -- those are
11 the kinds of things the design team will be helpful
12 for them.

13 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

14 SPEAKER: People who live in the
15 neighborhood typically do not get on The Beltline
16 is -- is what I'm hearing.

17 SPEAKER: Correct.

18 SPEAKER: Or some people --

19 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] I don't.

21 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] all the time.

22 SPEAKER: No, we do, but it's -- it's --

23 SPEAKER: It's dangerous.

24 SPEAKER: It's very dangerous.

25 SPEAKER: Okay. All right.

1 SPEAKER: From Ridge Road.

2 SPEAKER: Some avoid it altogether.

3 SPEAKER: All right.

4 SPEAKER: Some do -- some do. I -- I --

5 SPEAKER: Ridge Road.

6 SPEAKER: -- kind of figure it's there

7 and I'm tired so I don't go there rush hour.

8 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

9 SPEAKER: But that's the quickest way to

10 get to Costco.

11 SPEAKER: I know. I go that way.

12 SPEAKER: All right. So it's dangerous.

13 What does that -- what does that mean?

14 SPEAKER: It's too close together. The

15 way that the [inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: If that's the thing that's --

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] exiting and

18 entering at this [inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: If you're trying to enter and

20 this lane over here is trying to cut across you and

21 you're trying to go like this.

22 SPEAKER: There's just not enough --

23 SPEAKER: It's -- it's vicious.

24 SPEAKER: There's not enough room there.

25 SPEAKER: Yeah.

1 traveling that -- but it -- the others -- how do
2 you explain that? The other exit onto Ridge Road?

3 SPEAKER: It's the exit that -- that
4 you're talking about?

5 SPEAKER: The other exit onto Ridge Road.

6 SPEAKER: Ridge Road from the Beltline.

7 SPEAKER: From the Beltline.

8 SPEAKER: Okay.

9 SPEAKER: You've got people coming from
10 Glen Eden headed downtown.

11 SPEAKER: You've got three -- three --
12 three -- three roads merging into one. And if the
13 traffic is bad on 440, which it's going to get
14 worse under the construction, people will be
15 fighting to get on Ridge Road.

16 SPEAKER: And -- and I think that you can
17 put under traffic problems, too, is why on God's
18 green earth would you do a traffic project at one
19 end of Ridge Road when you're about to start
20 another massive one at Wade Avenue? Like --

21 SPEAKER: On Wade Avenue.

22 SPEAKER: Well, I know. That makes no
23 sense.

24 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] that was --

25 SPEAKER: Yeah. That -- that -- that's

1 -- that's -- I call that typical government.

2 SPEAKER: I -- I call that typical
3 government bureaucracy.

4 SPEAKER: That's a [inaudible] typical
5 right now.

6 SPEAKER: I apologize. I do not know the
7 timing of these projects.

8 SPEAKER: That -- that -- that contract
9 has been let.

10 SPEAKER: That one at the other end up
11 near Meredith College in Ridgewood, that one is
12 ahead of us. Down at the --

13 SPEAKER: Right.

14 SPEAKER: They're supposed to start
15 construction this spring.

16 SPEAKER: This spring.

17 SPEAKER: Yeah. So that problem -- that
18 project is going to be -- it's -- you know, we
19 already have traffic problems right now.

20 SPEAKER: All right.

21 SPEAKER: That's going to make it 10
22 times worse.

23 SPEAKER: All right. So let's talk about
24 --

25 SPEAKER: Wade Avenue construction.

1 SPEAKER: Wade Avenue construction's
2 probably --

3 SPEAKER: Wade Avenue --

4 SPEAKER: Wade Avenue at the Beltline.

5 SPEAKER: Yeah.

6 SPEAKER: And that's also Wade?

7 SPEAKER: Wade -- Wade Avenue at the
8 Beltline.

9 SPEAKER: At the Beltline. Got it.

10 SPEAKER: They're going to redo the
11 interchange and then widen it between Wade Avenue
12 and [inaudible] basically.

13 SPEAKER: That's [inaudible] spring?

14 SPEAKER: That's what they said. The
15 construction will start this spring. And get
16 Meredith College to help.

17 SPEAKER: Well, see, I -- I -- I'm an
18 alumnae of Meredith College. I've been getting
19 mail about that for several years.

20 SPEAKER: Well, yeah, I'm sure. Because
21 they're not happy and I don't blame them. Yeah. I
22 don't blame them.

23 SPEAKER: They didn't have a say in this
24 either.

25 SPEAKER: All right.

1 SPEAKER: Once the Wade Avenue project
2 starts --

3 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

4 SPEAKER: The traffic on Ridge Road --

5 SPEAKER: Is going to --

6 SPEAKER: -- is going to escalate
7 dramatically.

8 SPEAKER: I think that's right.

9 SPEAKER: So and that's just going to get
10 on the Beltline.

11 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

12 SPEAKER: So all the way down Ridge Road,
13 coming up to the right on the Beltline. And then
14 there's a --

15 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

16 SPEAKER: They already use Ridge Road to
17 cut through and I think once the construction
18 starts, it will become -- it will become even more
19 [inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: It's -- it's going to be
21 insane.

22 SPEAKER: And then they'll say we have to
23 widen Ridge Road.

24 SPEAKER: Got it.

25 SPEAKER: No, we don't. No.

1 SPEAKER: Exponentially.

2 SPEAKER: Yeah.

3 SPEAKER: Thank you.

4 SPEAKER: And it's Ridge Road I would
5 think --

6 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] should do is have
7 Ridge Road the other side of the Beltline blocked.

8 SPEAKER: Yeah, I think so, too.

9 SPEAKER: When they start Wade Avenue,
10 just block it off on Ridge Road.

11 SPEAKER: I think do -- I think they
12 should. That's -- that'd be fantastic.

13 SPEAKER: Yeah. That'd be great.

14 SPEAKER: Well, you know, sometimes it'll
15 say to local traffic only.

16 SPEAKER: Yeah, well, [inaudible].

17 SPEAKER: Yeah.

18 SPEAKER: Well, I mean you can try for
19 it. But at least --

20 SPEAKER: Yeah.

21 SPEAKER: No. I think they should block
22 it.

23 SPEAKER: And -- and while we're going
24 about eliminating the entrance -- the exit onto The
25 Beltline, why don't we just tear down the bridge?

1 SPEAKER: But it would come down. That
2 would be part of it. If -- if there's no access to
3 or from the Beltline, the -- the bridge would go.
4 Unless they need it to go to the back of the mall
5 which is [inaudible] --

6 SPEAKER: But remember one of the
7 proposals --

8 SPEAKER: On one of their proposals --

9 SPEAKER: One of the proposals had them
10 widening Crabtree Valley Avenue, right? And
11 bringing that up to the Beltline.

12 SPEAKER: Beltline.

13 SPEAKER: What's to prevent them -- even
14 though they say there's no plans now, what's to
15 prevent them from eventually opening that up to
16 Ridge Road?

17 SPEAKER: See, that's the [inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: Ah.

19 SPEAKER: That's -- that's -- that is --
20 that is, you know, this is -- this is the whole --
21 you know, there's no plans to widen Ridge Road;
22 there's no plans to touch Ridge Road.

23 SPEAKER: No, [inaudible].

24 SPEAKER: That's today. I've heard that
25 before. And five years from now or 10 years from

1 now, you know, they can very easily open that up.

2 SPEAKER: So here's what I want to do.
3 I'm going to capture -- the more I -- I listen to
4 you all, the impression that I'm getting is while
5 they're saying that there's no impact on Ridge
6 Road, you are not confident that they understand
7 how all these other projects --

8 SPEAKER: Right.

9 SPEAKER: How about we just don't flat
10 believe them?

11 SPEAKER: Yeah. All right. Yep.

12 SPEAKER: I'll be much more candid about
13 it.

14 SPEAKER: Well, we've dealt with DOT in
15 the past with major projects and you can't believe
16 them.

17 SPEAKER: No, you can't.

18 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] we have problems.

20 SPEAKER: I think it's the City of
21 Raleigh, too. I think it's the City of Raleigh as
22 well.

23 SPEAKER: I will say, you know, at one
24 time Dixie Trail was going to continue and would
25 have gone through my backyard to Glenwood Avenue.

1 I mean, we fought that. That -- this has been
2 [inaudible] so long, but --

3 SPEAKER: And that would cost them too
4 much money to do that, but --

5 SPEAKER: Yeah. But at -- that was --
6 and so, like, Coley Forest Place and all that, see
7 that wasn't there. It was just woods.

8 SPEAKER: It was. Right. Right.

9 SPEAKER: You know, I want to go back to
10 just -- well, when you get finished with that, I'll
11 --

12 SPEAKER: I hear you.

13 SPEAKER: I think one thing that we
14 might've lost on the valuable community assets --

15 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

16 SPEAKER: -- back there is just the
17 neighborhood, yes, is important, but the green
18 space.

19 SPEAKER: Oh, yes.

20 SPEAKER: Yeah.

21 SPEAKER: They're -- they're -- they're
22 talking about taking out a fair amount of green
23 space, especially right there at the Ridge Road
24 interchange when coming off the inner loop onto
25 Ridge Road.

1 SPEAKER: Right.

2 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

3 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

4 SPEAKER: Coggins. The Coggins Farm,
5 right? I mean, she's got the most to lose from a
6 land standpoint from what we have been told has
7 been proposed. Okay?

8 SPEAKER: From a land standpoint.

9 SPEAKER: Mm-hm. Land.

10 SPEAKER: Tell me where that is.

11 SPEAKER: It's -- it's -- it's --

12 SPEAKER: It's right at Ridge Road and
13 the Beltline.

14 SPEAKER: Okay.

15 SPEAKER: Yeah. And -- and I think --

16 SPEAKER: The exit from the outer loop.

17 SPEAKER: I think that would be -- I
18 mean, that's -- that's a farm, all right?

19 SPEAKER: Right now she owns 18 acres. I
20 did learn that when they built the Beltline, they
21 took 22 acres of their land.

22 SPEAKER: They did.

23 SPEAKER: Right, yeah, right. So -- so
24 you know, I mean how much does --

25 SPEAKER: And they built the Beltline in

1 the '60s.

2 SPEAKER: Well, I'm even [inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: And who is this?

4 SPEAKER: Well, I think --

5 SPEAKER: Coggins is her last name.

6 SPEAKER: Coggins. C-O-G-G-I-N-S.

7 SPEAKER: Louise? No.

8 SPEAKER: No.

9 SPEAKER: Okay. I'm sorry. I know --

10 SPEAKER: Judy.

11 SPEAKER: Judy Coggins. Okay.

12 SPEAKER: Judy. Yeah. It's where the

13 horses are.

14 SPEAKER: Yeah.

15 SPEAKER: She doesn't know anything about

16 that.

17 SPEAKER: Mm-hm. I know [inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: But -- but I think there's not

19 only a significant loss of green space at her

20 property, but I think there's other loss of green

21 space as well.

22 SPEAKER: If they widen the roads.

23 SPEAKER: You know?

24 SPEAKER: If they widen the roads, mm-hm.

25 SPEAKER: You know, if they widen -- if

1 they widen the roads, you're going to -- you're
2 going to lose --

3 SPEAKER: But that also adds to the
4 ambiance of the general neighborhood.

5 SPEAKER: Yeah. Ambiance, yeah.

6 SPEAKER: That's a good word.

7 SPEAKER: Ambiance, yeah. That is a good
8 word.

9 SPEAKER: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to go
10 back, but I just --

11 SPEAKER: No, no, no. Please do. We
12 want to get everything captured. We want to get
13 everything captured, so --

14 Let's just go over these and just make
15 sure. And I think we're actually doing pretty well
16 on time, but let's make sure. Everybody just read
17 over these. I'm going to stand over and just make
18 sure that what we captured -- anything else comes
19 to mind in these first four?

20 SPEAKER: I'm sorry. Where do you have
21 no access to or from under -- have Ridge Road
22 connected to the Beltline?

23 SPEAKER: Yeah, I do.

24 SPEAKER: Oh. No access to or from the
25 Beltline or Glenwood or -- I don't know [inaudible]

1 --

2 SPEAKER: Or Glenwood.

3 SPEAKER: Or Glenwood.

4 SPEAKER: No, and -- now, that brings up
5 a good point. 'Cause it's -- I think it's in the
6 study area, but I'm not exactly sure. But isn't
7 there a new apartment complex going up on Glenwood
8 that's going to have a parking garage that's going
9 to dump out onto Ridge Road?

10 SPEAKER: Where are you talking about?
11 On this side?

12 SPEAKER: That's another project, isn't
13 it?

14 SPEAKER: I heard about that. I
15 haven't-- been approved, but I may or may not be
16 wrong.

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] on Crabtree? Or on
18 this side?

19 SPEAKER: No, this side. This side.

20 SPEAKER: You probably know more about
21 that.

22 SPEAKER: On this side.

23 SPEAKER: Well, there's one --

24 SPEAKER: And down -- down -- down closer
25 -- down closer to -- to the interchange.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah.

2 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: Close to you. Yeah, past
4 [inaudible].

5 SPEAKER: I -- I -- I lived on Varnell.

6 SPEAKER: Varnell.

7 SPEAKER: In what we used to call back
8 then are apartments is now Sterling Glenwood.

9 SPEAKER: Right. Sterling Glenwood.

10 SPEAKER: Well, are --

11 SPEAKER: Are they -- are they doing
12 anything?

13 SPEAKER: I know, are they doing another?
14 They did -- it didn't get approved or something,
15 but they wanted to.

16 SPEAKER: Didn't get approved. They
17 wanted to, but there was some issue outstanding
18 about the traffic [inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: Yeah. So they're not going to
20 do that.

21 SPEAKER: But there is a new apartment
22 complex across on Glenwood?

23 SPEAKER: Oh yeah. A lot. Near the
24 woman's club.

25 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: Near the women's club.

2 SPEAKER: Maybe -- maybe that's something
3 that goes on the next one important thing is there
4 doesn't seem to be any kind of a longer term
5 vision, okay, as to what's going to happen after
6 they do whatever it is they're going to do. All
7 right? The City of Raleigh has been approving
8 apartment complexes, apartment complexes, apartment
9 complexes up Glenwood without any consideration for
10 what that does to the traffic patterns. Okay?

11 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

12 SPEAKER: They blew an opportunity, as I
13 understand it, to -- to acquire some property that
14 would have alleviated part of that issue. Don't
15 ask me for details. I don't know. That's just my
16 understanding.

17 SPEAKER: Okay.

18 SPEAKER: But I -- but I think in terms
19 of when they say there's no plans right now to
20 widen Ridge Road. Okay. Have you guys thought
21 about what it's going to look like in 10 or 20
22 years?

23 SPEAKER: Yeah.

24 SPEAKER: No, they can't see past, you
25 know, their budget period. All right? So I mean,

1 I really think --

2 SPEAKER: There seems -- there seems to
3 be -- there needs to be a big vision -- vision --
4 vision plan.

5 SPEAKER: There -- there really needs to
6 be more visioning [sic] here on the part of --

7 SPEAKER: Part of Raleigh.

8 SPEAKER: -- DOT and the City of Raleigh
9 as to what's going to happen. I mean, Lord knows
10 what it's going to look like if we get Amazon,
11 which [inaudible] we don't.

12 SPEAKER: It is.

13 SPEAKER: Have you -- have you been to
14 the back of Crabtree lately? Have you -- have you
15 seen all the apartments they've built [inaudible]
16 Crabtree? There's room for more. They can build
17 apartments [inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

19 SPEAKER: Exactly. Yeah, yeah. That's
20 what I'm talking about.

21 SPEAKER: Oh yeah. You're right.

22 SPEAKER: But I -- but I mean -- but then
23 they're going to have a traffic problem over there.

24 SPEAKER: But their infrastructure --

25 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: They don't have the
2 infrastructure there [inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: Which -- which is going to dump
4 out on the Crabtree Valley Avenue or Blue Ridge.
5 Now, they're already going to put a turn lane in
6 north Blue Ridge, as we understand it. But --

7 SPEAKER: You're right. Yeah, it doesn't
8 need it.

9 SPEAKER: I -- which I think --

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: I don't need.

12 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

13 SPEAKER: I don't think they need the
14 turn lane at Blue Ridge. But, you know, there --
15 there -- there's no vision here in terms of if we
16 build apartments here, where are these people going
17 to work. How are they going to get there?

18 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] to and from.

20 SPEAKER: How are they going to get back
21 and forth to work?

22 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

23 SPEAKER: All right? Without coming
24 through my neighborhood.

25 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

1 SPEAKER: We're beginning to see
2 incrementalism at work. No, we're not going to do
3 it right now.

4 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

5 SPEAKER: No, we don't have any plans
6 right now.

7 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

8 SPEAKER: No, it's not going to affect it
9 right now.

10 SPEAKER: I mean, they need to look at a
11 -- at, you know, what it's going to look like, you
12 know, 10, 20, 30 years from now. Am I right?

13 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

14 SPEAKER: Well, I -- I think they
15 probably somewhere have in their plans what they
16 want to do 10 years from now.

17 SPEAKER: Oh, I'm sure they do.

18 SPEAKER: And what would need to be done
19 10 years from now.

20 SPEAKER: Yeah.

21 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

22 SPEAKER: But I -- I -- I think that -- I
23 think that's a big problem.

24 SPEAKER: And what is it right now
25 [inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: I mean, you know?

2 SPEAKER: Huge problem.

3 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] that's pretty
4 projective.

5 SPEAKER: The Glenwood Avenue/Crabtree
6 Issue has been an issue for decades. It's not an
7 issue that just cropped up in the last couple of
8 years.

9 SPEAKER: Well, and big boxes are going
10 away. So what happens is they build an apartment
11 building.

12 SPEAKER: Well, that would probably
13 create less traffic.

14 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] I don't know.

15 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] they are zoned to
18 be able to build apartments and a midrise there, so
19 it could change, too. So that's traffic.

20 SPEAKER: At this point you're talking
21 about --

22 SPEAKER: Crabtree has -- I mean, it --
23 it -- if the big boxes go away, they have the
24 capability of building more apartments and -- and
25 -- and there's still a lot of people. So the

1 volume of people is not going to decrease at any
2 point. So, I mean, I grew up in Chicago and what's
3 happening in Raleigh is it's becoming a big city.

4 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

5 SPEAKER: And so I agree with you 100
6 percent. There needs to be a bigger -- if you're
7 talking about important things, we want to see an
8 overlay. Kind of what the projection based on
9 growth of people is happening to the -- to the
10 roads.

11 SPEAKER: Growth, uh-huh.

12 SPEAKER: Right.

13 SPEAKER: Because that's -- that's the
14 thing, is your infrastructure has to go along with
15 your building quantity and people.

16 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

17 SPEAKER: Yep.

18 SPEAKER: Usually we do building first
19 and then do the infrastructure.

20 SPEAKER: Oh, yeah. And that's why I'm
21 saying that's the problem with this.

22 SPEAKER: Then that's why I -- that's
23 my concern -- that's -- that's my concern when I --
24 when I say that there's -- that there's no --

25 SPEAKER: Or we don't know it. If -- if

1 you're -- if -- if there is something we would love
2 to be made aware of it.

3 SPEAKER: Well, we're not.

4 SPEAKER: Because I think that --

5 SPEAKER: I thought there were other
6 people in the other neighborhoods who --

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] that we're playing
8 catch up. [Inaudible].

9 SPEAKER: You know, City of Raleigh or
10 DOT says we have no plans to do this anytime soon
11 until years later they're doing exactly what they
12 said they weren't going to do and --

13 SPEAKER: I think they said that about
14 North Hills, didn't they?

15 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: I'm going to put that over
17 here, 'cause I think it --

18 SPEAKER: I wasn't living here then. I
19 have no idea.

20 SPEAKER: Well, I know.

21 SPEAKER: Well, which [inaudible] yeah.

22 SPEAKER: Yeah.

23 SPEAKER: Yeah, I've been living here a
24 long, long time and -- and my husband's mother
25 lived on Ridge Road. And I can remember when the

1 Beltline was -- was built. And we came back from
2 living abroad and we couldn't quite find our way to
3 her house but --

4 SPEAKER: Beltline used to end at New
5 Bern Avenue. Remember that?

6 SPEAKER: Yes, yes. So it's -- but I can
7 remember they did build 40 [inaudible] -- research
8 triangle and there used to be no traffic on that
9 road.

10 SPEAKER: Yeah, it's [inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

12 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

13 SPEAKER: I remember thinking one time
14 why did they build this road. So they -- that was
15 one time.

16 SPEAKER: No, I --

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: No, no.

19 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] down the road
21 before the -- yeah.

22 SPEAKER: Gosh, I remember all that.
23 The big picture long, long term.

24 SPEAKER: Long term.

25 SPEAKER: The big picture of long term.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah, definitely long term,
2 yeah.

3 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

4 SPEAKER: Now, long term is it --
5 what's going to happen to -- to Crabtree Valley is
6 a really big question.

7 SPEAKER: What else --

8 SPEAKER: I mean it's -- that's what
9 we've been told.

10 SPEAKER: Well, we've been told this
11 whole project is to alleviate traffic. That's
12 right.

13 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

14 SPEAKER: That's what I've been talking
15 about.

16 SPEAKER: Or the --

17 SPEAKER: We've -- we've spent for
18 Crabtree relatively little time on what we've been
19 told is the reason for this whole thing.

20 SPEAKER: Well, I don't think so. I
21 mean what -- even if that is the -- the purpose of
22 the project, to make it more safe, I think this is
23 giving them a lot of very valuable information.

24 SPEAKER: Yeah, uh-huh.

25 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah, uh-huh.

2 SPEAKER: If that's the goal then this
3 is what we need to see, you know, 'cause you are
4 trying to solve that problem.

5 SPEAKER: And you are trying to make
6 something [inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: Exactly.

8 SPEAKER: Yeah.

9 SPEAKER: Exactly.

10 SPEAKER: Yeah, I -- I -- yeah, but I
11 think the challenge here has been hearing this
12 since it first came up. It's been -- and they have
13 not been listening to us.

14 SPEAKER: Well, DOT [inaudible].

15 SPEAKER: All they've been doing is
16 saying we've got to do something.

17 SPEAKER: Right.

18 SPEAKER: We've got the money. We have
19 to spend it.

20 SPEAKER: Right.

21 SPEAKER: All right. They have not
22 been listening. So this is a listening session.
23 And we -- real interesting to see if anything
24 actually changes.

25 SPEAKER: Right.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah. This should have been
2 done over a year ago.

3 SPEAKER: That's why I don't trust this
4 process.

5 SPEAKER: Well, I know.

6 SPEAKER: Right, right.

7 SPEAKER: All I can say, we should have
8 started this way.

9 SPEAKER: Well, let me say that this is
10 a different -- this is a different process.

11 SPEAKER: And they say -- they say
12 they're going to start this in the spring.

13 SPEAKER: Well --

14 SPEAKER: Yeah, 'cause that's --

15 SPEAKER: Well, before we talk about
16 timing, because I really don't know anything about
17 that, but I do know about the process. They had
18 groups. I think they had meetings.

19 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

20 SPEAKER: And what they thought was
21 they had 350 people who came. I mean they
22 obviously know that this is a big issue. But when
23 350 people come you cannot capture everybody's
24 point of view.

25 SPEAKER: No, you can't.

1 SPEAKER: So this is an improvement.

2 SPEAKER: And this is a much better way.

3 SPEAKER: This is an improvement. Now,
4 I can't, you know, promise that -- here's -- here's
5 what I can promise. Everything that you are
6 telling me is recorded. This is going to be
7 transcribed -- transcribed. Your names are
8 scrubbed so you can be perfectly honest. And
9 everything you have to say we are going to document
10 here. That is not the process that they had
11 before.

12 SPEAKER: No, it wasn't.

13 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

14 SPEAKER: And so this -- this at least
15 is a better process.

16 SPEAKER: Yes.

17 SPEAKER: Yeah, and -- and you've done,
18 you've done an excellent job of moderating this.

19 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

20 SPEAKER: So it's nothing personal. I
21 just think there's a blatant distrust associated
22 with this whole process.

23 SPEAKER: There's frustration.

24 SPEAKER: Oh, yeah. Oh yeah,
25 absolutely.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah, I'll speak for myself.
2 I don't trust them.

3 SPEAKER: No.

4 SPEAKER: Okay.

5 SPEAKER: I understand that.

6 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

8 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

9 SPEAKER: But I have seen things in the
10 past that we worked it out as a neighborhood, you
11 know, like Dixie Trail running behind my -- right
12 through my backyard.

13 SPEAKER: Right. Right.

14 SPEAKER: That we solved.

15 SPEAKER: But the State of North
16 Carolina wasn't involved.

17 SPEAKER: It was the City of Raleigh.

18 SPEAKER: Right.

19 SPEAKER: I hope that at least there is
20 information that you will see in the design
21 concepts. Now, Beth said this during the intro but
22 they're three -- three design firms --

23 SPEAKER: Yes, yeah.

24 SPEAKER: -- who are going to be
25 developing, who are going to be taking all of this

1 input, all this input and using it to design -- to
2 be reflected in the designs that they propose.
3 Those design concepts are then going to be brought
4 back to these groups, which is exactly the process
5 that I'm familiar with in developing products and
6 services. This is -- and I bring that up because
7 there -- there is a time and tested, you know, this
8 process is used in lots of different industries.

9 SPEAKER: So it's almost like a design
10 competition that's going out to three different
11 things.

12 SPEAKER: It is.

13 SPEAKER: Which gives us [inaudible].

14 SPEAKER: With your input.

15 SPEAKER: Right. That -- that sounds a
16 lot better.

17 SPEAKER: So that's a great thing.

18 SPEAKER: Because before they'd already
19 decided [inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: No, no, this isn't when -- this
21 is a good thing.

22 SPEAKER: It sounds a lot better, but I
23 still can't make sense of why -- why they're paying
24 surveying teams to -- to do surveying ad nauseum.

25 SPEAKER: Um-hm.

1 SPEAKER: I know.

2 SPEAKER: I mean day after day.

3 SPEAKER: Oh, we see them day after day.

4 SPEAKER: Week after week.

5 SPEAKER: Yes.

6 SPEAKER: Stakes on Ridge Road in

7 people's yards. If they're not -- if they haven't

8 developed a -- a plan, then don't you think that's

9 putting the cart before the horse? That -- that --

10 that just breathes lack of transparency to me.

11 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

12 SPEAKER: Right and -- and painting the

13 streets in front of your yard.

14 SPEAKER: Yeah.

15 SPEAKER: Traffic engineers that are

16 there spray -- spray painting your street.

17 SPEAKER: Yeah.

18 SPEAKER: So that's okay. So you guys

19 are seeing activity.

20 SPEAKER: That's for the distrust.

21 SPEAKER: Yeah, we're seeing activity

22 across the street from where I live and on the

23 street where I live.

24 SPEAKER: Seeing activity. Okay. But

25 being told --

1 SPEAKER: There are survey teams out
2 there. There are engineers out there.

3 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] explain that.

4 SPEAKER: There's all kinds of folks
5 out there.

6 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: Yet they haven't made up their
8 mind. So then why are they out there?

9 SPEAKER: I -- I -- I [inaudible].

10 SPEAKER: Yeah, I know.

11 SPEAKER: And leave Ridge Road alone,
12 we'll be [inaudible].

13 SPEAKER: That I -- I just think
14 [inaudible].

15 SPEAKER: Yeah, [inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: Uh-huh. You're seeing
17 engineers, survey teams.

18 SPEAKER: Yeah, it [inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: I live five streets -- I can
20 take you five miles down --

21 SPEAKER: Yeah.

22 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

23 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] down.

24 SPEAKER: From Glen Eden.

25 SPEAKER: You won't see them down here

1 at this end of Ridge Road.

2 SPEAKER: No.

3 SPEAKER: Is she saying down across
4 [inaudible]?

5 SPEAKER: But you'll see them across
6 the street from where I live.

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] further down.

8 SPEAKER: And tell me where that it is
9 specifically?

10 SPEAKER: Close, now, very close
11 [inaudible].

12 SPEAKER: Do you want the address?

13 SPEAKER: Street corner's corner of Ridge
14 and what?

15 SPEAKER: Ridge and --

16 SPEAKER: Well, Blenatim.

17 SPEAKER: It's B-E-L --

18 SPEAKER: No. [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: B-L-E-N-A-T-I-M.

20 SPEAKER: Oh, B-L-E-L-A-M?

21 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] E-I-M.

22 SPEAKER: E --

23 SPEAKER: She's an Alabama fan; she
24 just learned how to spell. Sorry, I don't know
25 what to say.

1 SPEAKER: I agree.

2 SPEAKER: Yeah, that looks fine. That is
3 manual [inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: This is --

5 SPEAKER: Sorry about that. And this
6 is Colombia.

7 SPEAKER: No, that's Gary.

8 SPEAKER: And I just want to say, all
9 kinds of specific details like --

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: Where is Varnell [inaudible]?

12 SPEAKER: Right.

13 SPEAKER: Okay. I knew that.

14 SPEAKER: All right.

15 SPEAKER: Yeah.

16 SPEAKER: DOT partnership. How are we
17 doing on the time? Let's see what time we're
18 supposed to --

19 SPEAKER: And you go down Varnell.

20 SPEAKER: We have 19 minutes.

21 SPEAKER: We have 19 minutes and we're
22 done.

23 SPEAKER: Then she goes down Varnell,
24 the last house on the right before you get into
25 [inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: I think it's a little after.
2 SPEAKER: It is at -- when does
3 [inaudible].
4 SPEAKER: Maybe 8:00.
5 SPEAKER: 8:00, yeah.
6 SPEAKER: I think it's a little after.
7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
8 SPEAKER: Right.
9 SPEAKER: We have it for 8:15.
10 SPEAKER: Okay.
11 SPEAKER: Yeah.
12 SPEAKER: Yeah, yeah.
13 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
14 SPEAKER: I moved here in 1986.
15 SPEAKER: So I feel like -- I feel like
16 when we talk about DOT partnership. I'm going to
17 read the question.
18 SPEAKER: Do you want this?
19 SPEAKER: No.
20 SPEAKER: You got it?
21 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
22 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
23 SPEAKER: I'm going to let these guys.
24 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
25 SPEAKER: Is there something important

1 one-word sheet, and consider that when they're
2 making plans that will change a neighborhood. Or
3 everything on there.

4 SPEAKER: So is it --

5 SPEAKER: Don't be bureaucrats.

6 SPEAKER: Before getting community --
7 establishing a process for community input up
8 front.

9 SPEAKER: That would help, yes. And
10 we're still -- I think I can speak for at least
11 myself and one other person -- we're still
12 distrustful of what's happening right now with you,
13 Holly.

14 SPEAKER: Very, very, very distrustful.

15 SPEAKER: Not -- not you personally.

16 SPEAKER: Oh, no, that's okay.

17 SPEAKER: But we -- we are somewhat
18 distrustful of this. Feeling like we're being
19 managed in this situation.

20 SPEAKER: Yep.

21 SPEAKER: And that there's probably
22 planning bunch of dork things and people going out
23 and making surveys. And we're really not sure how
24 much is -- of this is going to be listened to or
25 perhaps even considered.

1 SPEAKER: You can't just expect --

2 SPEAKER: How --

3 SPEAKER: I -- I think -- I think the
4 word I want to put on it is, I think we're being
5 spun.

6 SPEAKER: Well --

7 SPEAKER: I think there's a spin, right?

8 SPEAKER: So let's talk about -- because
9 I think that's where we can give suggestions about
10 partnership. What would make you -- now, there was
11 someone in the introductory session who wanted to
12 have access to the recordings.

13 SPEAKER: Oh, yes. Yes.

14 SPEAKER: What other suggestions do you
15 have? Because I think that speaks to partnership.
16 What other suggestions on how this process could be
17 more transparent?

18 SPEAKER: If -- if you truly are having
19 nine options come to the table?

20 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

21 SPEAKER: Then maybe you should be able
22 to have voting rights to get to the one final
23 option.

24 SPEAKER: That's a great point there.

25 SPEAKER: Get consensus on the direction.

1

2

SPEAKER: Because we're -- our property value -- our -- we paid for it. It's what's important to us. And I'd venture to say nobody that works for DOT lives on Ridge Road.

3

4

5

6

SPEAKER: No, but the happiest of those a cutthroat.

7

8

SPEAKER: Holly, that question that you asked.

9

10

SPEAKER: Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

11

12

SPEAKER: Just a second ago about the lady that asked the moderator if those recordings would be available. That answer was never given. The question was never answered.

13

14

15

SPEAKER: I -- I heard her say that they were going to be put on the website. But that's -- that's what I understood. That they were going to be transcribed and put on the website. I think the real thing is what that form is going to look like.

16

17

18

19

20

SPEAKER: Yeah.

21

22

SPEAKER: I don't think it's going to be [inaudible].

23

24

SPEAKER: And maybe they don't know what the form is going to look like.

25

SPEAKER: Right. I don't think they know

1 that part. But I think it's going to be on the
2 website. What I would bet is it's going to be
3 categorized and summarized. Because people are not
4 going to want to sit through and read transcripts
5 for every single [inaudible].

6 SPEAKER: Right. From every little nit
7 and grit. Yeah.

8 SPEAKER: But you don't know.

9 SPEAKER: I don't know. That was my
10 understanding from what she said tonight and --

11 SPEAKER: Well, I think that's -- that's
12 part of the transparency.

13 SPEAKER: And -- and -- and it's so
14 funny.

15 SPEAKER: And part of that -- that can't
16 be -- that can't be a question that is just now
17 being asked that they cannot respond to. They
18 ought to respond to the -- to -- to -- to the
19 question when asked. The response that I heard was
20 we're not taking questions. Well, now, what kind
21 of a partnership is that?

22 SPEAKER: I got you. So the woman who
23 gave the presentation tonight, she is not on DOT's
24 staff. Okay? She is -- Beth is the woman who has
25 organized these listening sessions with the goal of

1 giving you all more input. It may be that -- that
2 the -- the -- the way to execute -- the goal of all
3 of this is to have greater transparency and greater
4 involvement. How to do that, I suspect, is the
5 reason she did not give more specifics. But I hear
6 you. I hear what you're saying.

7 SPEAKER: Well, I think, but -- but why
8 would you have --

9 SPEAKER: But is -- is she being paid by
10 them? Did DOT decide okay, we need to do something
11 and they hired her? Or did she go and say you need
12 to have me do this?

13 SPEAKER: My understanding is that DOT is
14 fully aware of all the concerns about transparency,
15 distrust. And so they understood that they needed
16 a different process. And Beth -- I don't know if
17 she's done work with them before, but Beth proposed
18 this process based on all the decades of work that
19 she's done.

20 SPEAKER: Okay. So because she's worked
21 with it. Yeah. Okay.

22 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] partnership between
23 community groups, grassroots organizations and
24 partnering.

25 SPEAKER: Okay. All right. So that sort

1 of explains that.

2 SPEAKER: So is anyone from DOT attending
3 the DOT listening sessions?

4 SPEAKER: They are. Absolutely.
5 Absolutely. Absolutely.

6 SPEAKER: What was the question? Is
7 anyone --

8 SPEAKER: Is anyone from the DOT
9 attending these sessions?

10 SPEAKER: They could be behind us.

11 SPEAKER: Hello.

12 SPEAKER: Well, no, it's not just DOT.
13 It isn't just DOT. But -- but it's also the design
14 firms.

15 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] but I am with one
17 of the engineering firms.

18 SPEAKER: Are either of you with the DOT?

19 SPEAKER: No, I'm with a -- I'm with a
20 consulting firm.

21 SPEAKER: I am -- right.

22 SPEAKER: Right. So it -- it could be
23 DOT, it could be design firms; they're listening.

24 SPEAKER: But -- but I think -- I think
25 that's all right. That's okay. I think that's

1 good, that they're here listening.

2 SPEAKER: And I would -- I would be
3 shocked. I would like to know -- I would -- I
4 would like to know -- but I do think it would be if
5 we're in transparency, like, where's the DOT person
6 here tonight?

7 SPEAKER: Right here.

8 SPEAKER: No, he's --

9 SPEAKER: Darn it.

10 SPEAKER: Seriously, are you with DOT?

11 SPEAKER: Yes. I'm listening.

12 SPEAKER: Okay. Okay. Fine. I -- I get
13 that. But I think -- I think --

14 SPEAKER: And I --

15 SPEAKER: I'm glad you're here.

16 SPEAKER: And we appreciate it.

17 SPEAKER: As Beth said during the
18 introduction, that there were people here who are
19 listening.

20 SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you for being
21 here.

22 SPEAKER: I will say from our
23 perspective, I have been told I'm designing three
24 designs. And I have no concept at all yet. It's
25 completely a landscape problem.

1 SPEAKER: Right. [Inaudible]. Whatever.

2 SPEAKER: So I don't think they would be
3 paying me for something that's [inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: And -- and I'm sure that --
5 that --

6 SPEAKER: Well, they wouldn't have three
7 companies doing it right now. You guys, I mean
8 that's -- I mean, I think they've -- it -- from
9 what it seems like, they've stepped back. And I
10 guess from our -- from our standpoint is we never
11 wanted to get thrown into, here's a final decision
12 and it's rammed down our throats. So if we really
13 are going through and there's nine -- nine layouts
14 that come out, and then you go down to three. And
15 we're involved in that process and watching it be
16 developed, I think this neighborhood would be a lot
17 more satisfied.

18 SPEAKER: Yes. Yes.

19 SPEAKER: Knowing that we had -- that we
20 had a voice.

21 SPEAKER: And it may not be perfect.

22 SPEAKER: No.

23 SPEAKER: And it may not be -- I mean,
24 you all have been very clear that you just don't
25 want this.

1 SPEAKER: Crystal.

2 SPEAKER: But -- but the -- the easy,
3 simple solution is not to do this project.

4 SPEAKER: No.

5 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

6 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

8 SPEAKER: From -- from where we live.

9 SPEAKER: From where you live. You've
10 been clear. Exactly. You've been clear.

11 SPEAKER: We all live --

12 SPEAKER: Ridge Road and [inaudible].
13 Right. And --

14 SPEAKER: In that Ridge Road area.

15 SPEAKER: And that you're concerned in
16 general about the lack of transparency. How they
17 say one thing and you actually see activity being
18 done.

19 SPEAKER: Yeah. They're up and down the
20 road all the time.

21 SPEAKER: And so that's exactly --

22 SPEAKER: I just want to say from a
23 surveying standpoint, just from projects that I've
24 worked on, they survey a zillion times. And every
25 time I go to design something, their survey is not

1 right. So we send them back out a hundred times.
2 So it's not actually surprising that they're out
3 there all the time. There's a lot that they miss
4 and so that's a lot of the reason why they have to
5 continue to go back out.

6 SPEAKER: And that -- you know -- that's
7 very helpful information and -- and what I would
8 say, at least for future sessions, is I think it's
9 great that you guys are here.

10 SPEAKER: Absolutely.

11 SPEAKER: Yeah well, I wasn't really told
12 what I can say and what I can't say. So --

13 SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. Well, what I --
14 what I -- what I think --

15 SPEAKER: But I thought the surveying
16 point was interesting because we do send them out
17 all the time. Over and over.

18 SPEAKER: My -- the point I was going to
19 make is I think it would be helpful to --

20 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

21 SPEAKER: I think it would be helpful for
22 you guys to identify yourselves on what -- what
23 you're -- you're listening but this is I'm a DOT or
24 I'm with the consulting firm that's going to be
25 working on the drawings or whatever the heck you

1 call them. And I think that would be helpful, at
2 least going forward, you know. I wouldn't have
3 been any less candid, I can assure you.

4 SPEAKER: Oh, I can [inaudible].

5 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

6 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: So let me tell you that in
8 industry the way that this happens is the client --
9 so the -- the -- the company who is developing the
10 product or service would be watching a focus group,
11 which would be like a listening session. But
12 behind the screen and it is, you know, I'm glad
13 that you [inaudible].

14 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] behind the screen?

15 SPEAKER: No, no. But I'm saying that
16 the -- the reason that people don't self-identify
17 is because they don't -- they want people to be
18 honest, Number 1.

19 SPEAKER: Sure.

20 SPEAKER: But they also don't want to
21 have the conversation shift away from this valuable
22 information.

23 SPEAKER: And turn it around like this,
24 you know, that wouldn't be good.

25 SPEAKER: Exactly.

1 pins down what the -- what, you know, what the
2 group was -- looked like. Will it say, okay, we
3 were part of XYZ, you know, this group? I mean, I
4 wonder if they're identifying that.

5 SPEAKER: Mm-hm. That is a good
6 question. I'm going to keep my cards separate.

7 SPEAKER: Yeah.

8 SPEAKER: Because then it's helpful just
9 for me to say that these were all the people that
10 were in Group 2112.

11 SPEAKER: Yeah.

12 SPEAKER: Yeah.

13 SPEAKER: What I do know is you all have
14 all signed in, right?

15 SPEAKER: Yeah.

16 SPEAKER: Yeah.

17 SPEAKER: So there is a way to get back
18 in touch with you. And often what happens when you
19 do -- and this is like market research -- often
20 what happens when you do market research is you
21 realize and you know that there are -- that there's
22 a lot of confusion about one issue. Or there are a
23 lot of questions about another issue. And there
24 may be a time -- I don't know this to be the case
25 -- but they have your contact information. There

1 may be a time when they might circle back to you to
2 ask an additional question. I don't know if that
3 will be the case or not. But it -- it's possible.

4 SPEAKER: I am just wondering if
5 something's going to get lost in the translation.
6 Because the person doing the transcription and the
7 streamlining doesn't have a vested interest.

8 SPEAKER: They don't understand how --
9 how emphatic we are with our -- you know, I mean,
10 here's the tone, right?

11 SPEAKER: Yeah.

12 SPEAKER: That's why it's recorded.
13 That's why it's recorded. Here, it's recorded.
14 Then you have people who listen. And they're
15 getting the information. They will see the
16 information and they can say, you know what,
17 though? When I was in that group people talked
18 about this. They mentioned this 18 times.

19 SPEAKER: So do you approve it? Do you
20 approve it as the -- as the leader?

21 SPEAKER: Yes, you do. Yep.

22 SPEAKER: Can I make a suggestion? Or at
23 least something?

24 SPEAKER: Absolutely.

25 SPEAKER: Or at least something to

1 consider? Because if I understand how the process
2 is going to work from here -- and I could be
3 mistaken, but essentially to boil it down is you're
4 going to take all this input. The design firms are
5 going to come up with three different designs that
6 they're then going to bring back to us. Right?

7 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

8 SPEAKER: Nine?

9 SPEAKER: Three design firms, three
10 designs each. Right? So -- so nine options.
11 Before they bring back nine options, maybe there
12 ought to be another meeting to say this is what we
13 heard and this is where we're going to focus. You
14 know?

15 SPEAKER: This is what we heard.

16 SPEAKER: Well, this is the program that
17 they're going off of.

18 SPEAKER: Yeah.

19 SPEAKER: And -- and -- and before we get
20 nine options, for lack of a better way to put it,
21 to vote on it.

22 SPEAKER: Yeah, that's a really good
23 idea.

24 SPEAKER: It seems like you could come up
25 with at least 25 bullet points so, yeah.

1 to design to. What are we missing here, okay?

2 SPEAKER: Yeah. It's like giving kids a
3 rubric to write a paper.

4 SPEAKER: Yes, yes.

5 SPEAKER: Yes. Exactly.

6 SPEAKER: You know these are the
7 [inaudible] programs --

8 SPEAKER: I like that.

9 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: You know, what I'm hearing is
12 these design firms don't have a whole lot of time.

13 SPEAKER: Yeah.

14 SPEAKER: You're going to be busy, aren't
15 you?

16 SPEAKER: Well, [inaudible].

17 SPEAKER: Yeah, I get that.

18 SPEAKER: All right. [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: But -- but -- but I mean, you
20 know, let's not -- let's not spend the next six
21 weeks, assuming it's November 1st -- the next six
22 weeks based on these listening sessions because
23 somebody's got a deadline to meet. All right? I
24 mean that's what I'm concerned about is DOT is, you
25 know, we've got to spend this money. They said

1 that.

2 SPEAKER: They said that. But then --

3 SPEAKER: We've got -- we've got to spend
4 this money. The legislature's upset. We've got to
5 do this. We cannot wait.

6 SPEAKER: But they could dial this down.

7 SPEAKER: They need to dial down the
8 rhetoric a little bit.

9 SPEAKER: They need to dial it down a bit
10 [inaudible].

11 SPEAKER: What -- what -- what. Okay.
12 Nothing with the government's ever been on time
13 anyway. So I mean let's -- you know, if they're
14 really serious about this.

15 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] to prioritize
16 community input.

17 SPEAKER: Yes, yes.

18 SPEAKER: And creating a process.

19 SPEAKER: As I recall --

20 SPEAKER: Give them a program from the
21 information you're gathering from this meeting so
22 that they can go forward, all three groups and be
23 designing to the same information.

24 SPEAKER: The same requirements.

25 SPEAKER: Requirements, yeah.

1 SPEAKER: As I recall that statement made
2 about we have the money and it must be spent was
3 made by that first engineering group when they only
4 had one group. It was that late.

5 SPEAKER: It was the guy -- that was the
6 guy from DOT.

7 SPEAKER: Yeah.

8 SPEAKER: And -- and [inaudible].

9 SPEAKER: And she was there.

10 SPEAKER: Yeah. That's right.

11 SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

12 SPEAKER: That's right.

13 SPEAKER: Oh, God, that was awful.

14 SPEAKER: That was one at the turn
15 [inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: Yeah, everybody, like,
17 [inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: And -- and that's why --

20 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

21 SPEAKER: Yeah.

22 SPEAKER: I know the lady was talking
23 about why can't I hear what everyone's saying, but
24 none of us would have talked this much if we'd been
25 sitting in there with 70 other people.

1 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

2 SPEAKER: Yeah.

3 SPEAKER: Yeah. I don't have -- I don't

4 -- [inaudible].

5 SPEAKER: Yeah. I -- I think this

6 process is good.

7 SPEAKER: I just think maybe there ought

8 to be another step.

9 SPEAKER: Yeah.

10 SPEAKER: Yeah.

11 SPEAKER: You know, before -- before --

12 before we -- they come back with nine.

13 SPEAKER: Well, they need a program to

14 work from.

15 SPEAKER: Yeah. And [inaudible]. I mean

16 what -- what --

17 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: I mean I'd be interested in

20 your view on that. Would that be [inaudible].

21 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

22 SPEAKER: Yeah, I'm not sure what exactly

23 all the steps are on [inaudible]. But I do think

24 that -- I'm hoping -- I'm assuming that we would

25 get some sort of report at least or something.

1 SPEAKER: Because you're only hearing us.
2 You're not hearing the other [inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: Yeah. Some sort of report or
4 written documentation of all these meetings that we
5 would need to read and go through as we're
6 designing.

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

8 SPEAKER: But [inaudible] what I envision
9 is you almost -- you almost -- you almost go
10 through a strong man and say, you know, okay.

11 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] I get what you're
12 saying.

13 SPEAKER: We don't have all the details
14 here. But, you know, big picture-wise, these are
15 the three things we're thinking about. What are we
16 missing here, you know? And each firm says these
17 are the three things. Or alternatively, you know,
18 it's like okay, here's what we heard and here's
19 what we're going to design to. And here's some
20 big-picture concepts. Give us some feedback.

21 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

22 SPEAKER: And I don't think you've got
23 enough time to do smaller focus groups like this.
24 Maybe it needs to be a little bit larger group, and
25 it needs to be a mixed group. We've got all

1 residents in here that live [inaudible] Ridge Road.

2 SPEAKER: Well, I think the residents are
3 the ones who are up in arms.

4 SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. Okay.

5 SPEAKER: Well, that -- that's right.
6 [Inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] and don't have the
8 money [inaudible].

9 SPEAKER: But -- but-- but you do -- but
10 you do have to hear about -- you do have to hear
11 from folks on the other side of the Beltline that
12 are going to be impacted by this.

13 SPEAKER: And they [inaudible]. So this
14 is just this group.

15 SPEAKER: Right.

16 SPEAKER: But there are 10 or 15 of these
17 classrooms, and then there are multiple days. So
18 they have done a good job [inaudible].

19 SPEAKER: Yeah, but this is -- you're
20 only going to hear from the Ridge Road people. I
21 don't know if you're going to get people -- maybe
22 you will [inaudible].

23 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

24 SPEAKER: Well, I know. Like people who
25 [inaudible] or Crabtree.

1 SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. Yeah. Nobody --
2 SPEAKER: I know.
3 SPEAKER: So before you --
4 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] call me. I've got
5 to run.
6 SPEAKER: Oh, okay.
7 SPEAKER: Thank you.
8 SPEAKER: Before you go, do you feel that
9 everything -- I just wanted to ask. I loved what
10 Lynn said about the must-haves. Do you feel that
11 your must-haves for this project are captured? And
12 if there are any just [inaudible].
13 SPEAKER: No, I think -- I think we've
14 done those.
15 SPEAKER: Okay.
16 SPEAKER: So we appreciate it.
17 SPEAKER: Thank you so much for coming.
18 SPEAKER: Thank you for this.
19 SPEAKER: Thank you. I appreciate it.
20 SPEAKER: I really appreciate it.
21 SPEAKER: We talked about DO -- DOT
22 [inaudible].
23 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
24 SPEAKER: There are your pictures.
25 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] do that they can

1 give us a detailed timeline of what the decision
2 [inaudible].

3 SPEAKER: Yeah, that would be very good.

4 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] great. Mm-hm.

5 SPEAKER: Detailed timeline and
6 [inaudible] what the decisions points are and this
7 shouldn't be something every -- every three or four
8 months.

9 SPEAKER: Hmm.

10 SPEAKER: I -- I've watched DOT do that.
11 And they come up and throw up a bunch of plans and
12 find out, well, there's only one of them that is
13 actually reached -- is actually being considered.
14 And they just put the others up to placate the --
15 the people in the meetings. There's if we had the
16 work, there's a concern that these meetings are
17 just to placate us. Okay.

18 SPEAKER: I'm sorry. Can you repeat
19 that? The part about that they will come back and
20 they will tell you this is all the stuff we -- I
21 want to make sure I understand this. This is all
22 the stuff that they heard, but they are just
23 including things to placate?

24 SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. DOT -- whenever
25 I've been they have -- they have had meetings, and

1 SPEAKER: But -- but what DOT needs to do
2 to give -- to do their partnership is to give us an
3 outline. Give us when decision points are going to
4 be made.

5 SPEAKER: Mm-hm.

6 SPEAKER: And not every -- every three
7 months, you know, because things happen more than
8 that. And to be transparent and give us feedback.

9 SPEAKER: So you want it more than every
10 three months?

11 SPEAKER: Yes, absolutely.

12 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] to do it every
13 three months?

14 SPEAKER: And make -- decisions are being
15 made more than every three months. [Inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: I mean you wait from now until
17 three months from now, you're talking -- we're into
18 December.

19 SPEAKER: I would say every month.

20 SPEAKER: Yeah.

21 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] three weeks?

22 SPEAKER: This is our money. It's our
23 people. It's our --

24 SPEAKER: Well, even if it's just
25 updated. What about updating it?

1 SPEAKER: Yeah.

2 SPEAKER: Yeah, uh-huh.

3 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

4 SPEAKER: Just update it. Let it --
5 transparency. Let us know what's going on.

6 SPEAKER: The other things that are
7 related to this in -- in terms of process is how do
8 you all provide feedback in real time. Is there a
9 mechanism? Have any of you contacted DOT on the
10 website? Is there -- we look at that community
11 organizer.

12 SPEAKER: I'm part of a group who has an
13 attorney.

14 SPEAKER: Right. We're part of the same
15 group [inaudible].

16 SPEAKER: Got you.

17 SPEAKER: Yeah.

18 SPEAKER: And -- and so we do that.

19 SPEAKER: Some -- some of us -- some of
20 us have [inaudible].

21 SPEAKER: So we've got people finding out
22 things for us around.

23 SPEAKER: And you have community
24 meetings.

25 SPEAKER: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

1 SPEAKER: Got it. Got it. Okay.

2 SPEAKER: One more thing. I think that
3 we have -- there -- there's a final takeaway point
4 is that this group feels like that the disconnect
5 Ridge Road from the Beltline that it would
6 eliminate a lot of our -- a lot of the problems in
7 this.

8 SPEAKER: Yes. We would shut up and go
9 away.

10 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] final takeaway
11 point.

12 SPEAKER: Yeah.

13 SPEAKER: Disconnecting Ridge Road. We
14 have three in a -- three connections with the
15 Beltline. And we could get rid of all three of
16 them. We could get rid of two of them. We could
17 get rid of one of them. That would be a takeaway
18 point from this meeting. Okay. I would draw the
19 line above that, so we know it's the fundamental
20 takeaway.

21 SPEAKER: Yeah.

22 SPEAKER: You want us to get to ask a
23 question.

24 SPEAKER: Oh, yeah.

25 SPEAKER: Did you have a question that

1 you didn't?

2 SPEAKER: Yeah. Don't you know she
3 wanted to ask to vote a question and you said we'll
4 do that at the end.

5 SPEAKER: Yes.

6 SPEAKER: Oh. I don't -- I don't think
7 anybody's voting for this project, are you? She
8 wanted -- she wanted a show of hands.

9 SPEAKER: Right. And you said I'll do it
10 at the end.

11 SPEAKER: At the end. Mm-hm. Mm-hm.

12 SPEAKER: And remind her.

13 SPEAKER: Yeah.

14 SPEAKER: You're losing your --

15 SPEAKER: I think -- I think as long as
16 you all are satisfied that we mentioned everything.

17 SPEAKER: It came up. It was discussed a
18 lot, but nobody actually put it on the list.

19 SPEAKER: What's that?

20 SPEAKER: In the next room. I'm just
21 trying to find out in how many other rooms did this
22 specifically get written down. And the answer so
23 far is none.

24 SPEAKER: Well, I know it was written
25 down on another meeting that I was in that was at

1 -- at Highland.

2 SPEAKER: Was it specifically no access
3 to or from the Beltline? See, this is the problem.

4 SPEAKER: I think it was more that end
5 down there. You know the -- the end near Crabtree.
6 [Inaudible].

7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible]. That's what I'm
8 talking about. You know the best [inaudible] would
9 connect to the Beltline.

10 SPEAKER: Right. But it wasn't inclusive
11 of all. I know that that was said before.

12 SPEAKER: Okay.

13 SPEAKER: It was written on a piece of
14 paper at Highland Methodist.

15 SPEAKER: Well, the only thing I'll tell
16 you is a lot of what people are saying ties into
17 maybe that should be not attached to the Beltline
18 anymore.

19 SPEAKER: Well --

20 SPEAKER: So maybe they don't have it on
21 there.

22 SPEAKER: I -- I -- I -- the thing is
23 they're not -- it didn't get -- if it didn't get
24 written down in every group, then it may not
25 [inaudible].

1 SPEAKER: That's not -- that's not true.
2 SPEAKER: [Inaudible] not totally true.
3 SPEAKER: That's not true.
4 SPEAKER: Okay.
5 SPEAKER: Because here's the [inaudible]
6 --
7 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
8 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
9 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].
10 SPEAKER: I heard it loud and clear.
11 SPEAKER: Let me tell you why. Let me --
12 SPEAKER: But a lot of things -- okay.
13 All right.
14 SPEAKER: This is not -- okay. Fine.
15 SPEAKER: No, let me just explain --
16 explain to you why. The design firm will be
17 listening, not just to your solutions but for the
18 reasons for your solutions.
19 SPEAKER: We're given the solutions.
20 SPEAKER: I understand. But that looks
21 like the solution only six or seven people
22 consider. So out of the 250 people that have
23 attended these things, unless there's more than six
24 or seven people that mention that, then it's not
25 going to be something they'll consider.

1 SPEAKER: I so see where she's coming
2 from.

3 SPEAKER: I see it too, because you even
4 said, Holly.

5 SPEAKER: Right.

6 SPEAKER: You're going to transcribe;
7 we're going to streamline. And what four teams
8 think.

9 SPEAKER: And if it's repeated -- that
10 come up -- I got it.

11 SPEAKER: This is not considered a theme
12 that they expect.

13 SPEAKER: Here's what is. Here's what is
14 going to get repeated. So -- so here's -- I -- I
15 do want to give you guys a reality check. And
16 please forgive me if I'm using words that sound
17 disrespectful. I do -- I don't mean that.

18 SPEAKER: Right.

19 SPEAKER: But the designers have your
20 input to consider, and then they also have the City
21 of Raleigh and DOT information to consider. The
22 solution of yanking Ridge Road to and from the
23 Beltline is a solution. Other people may not have
24 come up with that solution, but they may have
25 discussed all of the issues.

1 SPEAKER: A lot of this.

2 SPEAKER: About the impact of traffic on
3 the -- on the, you know, on that Ridge Road
4 community and -- and -- and their communities. So
5 they may not have come up with the actual solution.

6 SPEAKER: But the information that they
7 gave that feeds into it.

8 SPEAKER: But all the information that
9 led to you guys having -- you guys are very --
10 you're very well educated on this issue, you're
11 organized, you've been brainstorming. There might
12 be some others who have exactly the same concerns,
13 but just not as far along on problem solving as you
14 are. I just don't want you to be concerned that
15 unless it appears -- unless the solution appears,
16 it's really the design firm's job to come up with
17 the solutions. And then you [inaudible] say those
18 solutions aren't needed [inaudible] --

19 SPEAKER: [Inaudible].

20 SPEAKER: Yeah.

21 SPEAKER: What was your question, hon?

22 SPEAKER: I forgot, I think.

23 SPEAKER: You wanted --

24 SPEAKER: Thank you for participating.

25 What?

1 SPEAKER: No. Back at the beginning.

2 And she said you guys save that.

3 SPEAKER: I slid it in there 'cause I had
4 a chance to put it on there. That's what I wanted
5 to ask.

6 SPEAKER: And how many people in this
7 room would -- would be okay if Ridge Road did not
8 connect to the Beltline?

9 SPEAKER: I think you got a feeling that
10 people said.

11 SPEAKER: I think you guys were pretty
12 clear.

13 SPEAKER: Yeah, [inaudible] ask the
14 question so I'm going to hear anyway.

15 SPEAKER: But that's okay. That's okay.

16 SPEAKER: As long as the information gets
17 [inaudible].

18 SPEAKER: Holly, thank you so much.

19 SPEAKER: Thank you.

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